

**Town Manager's Office
Town of Mansfield**

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: July 25, 2016
Re: Town Manager's Report

Below please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council, the staff, and the community:

Council Business

- *Request from Mr. Jason McGarry to waive fees for ZBA application* – As you will recall, Mr. Jason McGarry recently asked the Town to waive his fees to apply for a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to erect fencing around his property. I have asked the Town Attorney for his opinion and he has informed me that there is no authority under the current Code of Ordinances that would allow the Town Council to waive the fees. Section 122-1 of the Code sets forth the fees without any provision for indigence or otherwise waiving the fees. The Council would have to amend the ordinance through its regular full process to create the ability to waive the fees. Staff will inform Mr. McGarry accordingly.

Departmental Reports

- *Building and Housing Inspection*
 - *137 Spring Hill Road* – A number of councilors and some residents have expressed concern about this property given the shooting that occurred there last spring. Following an inspection, staff did issue a conditional rental certificate for this property that expired on 7/22/16. In addition, the State Police recently arrested the owner's agent in connection with the shooting. Staff is following up with the owner and will require a new landlord registration.
- *Facilities Management* - Current summer projects include:
 - All schools – cleaning, inspection of water storage tanks, flooring projects, roof preventative maintenance
 - Goodwin – renovation and repair of plumbing in boy's bathroom
 - Vinton - boiler replacement project
 - Southeast - repairs to exterior siding on portables
 - Community Center – cleaning during shutdown week
 - Mansfield Discovery Depot - cleaning during shutdown week
 - Roof preventative maintenance on all town buildings
 - Senior Center – cleaning during shutdown week
 - Town Hall – exterior painting and repair work
 - Facility needs assessment for municipal buildings

- *Public Works*
 - *Paving Projects* – This summer’s paving projects include:
 - Mansfield City Road near Stearns Road - asphalt reclamation to start August 8th (Garrity Asphalt Reclaiming)
 - Lynwood/Ridge/Farmstead/Costello – milling to start August 11th (Garrity Asphalt Reclaiming)
 - Paving of aforementioned roads August 15th through August 25th (Tilcon)
 - Post Office Road – possible drainage work to begin around August 1st; paving during the week of August 22nd. All work pending the approval of the Postal Service.
 - Candide Lane – apron work (Krukoff paving)
 - *Storrs Center Oak Tree* – The Town has hired an arborist to help preserve the Oak tree at the corner of Dog Lane and RT 195. To date, the arborist has applied a fertilizer treatment and an insect treatment, and has treated the soil with limestone. Another fertilizer treatment is planned for September and a growth regulator treatment next spring. Town staff is watering the tree daily.
- *Town Manager’s Office* – I recently had the opportunity to attend a meeting of the Sustainability Advisory Committee and we had a good conversation regarding the progress the Town is making with implementing actions highlighted in the *Mansfield Tomorrow* plan related to climate change. I would also like to commend the members of the Climate Action Task Force for the good work they have done to create a matrix of all of the items in the plan related to climate change; the matrix will provide a useful tool to help measure our progress moving forward.

Upcoming Events

- *Celebrate Mansfield Festival* - The Mansfield Downtown Partnership invites Mansfield-located businesses and community organizations to participate in the 13th Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival on Sunday, September 18. The event will take place on and around the Town Square. The Celebrate Mansfield Parade will kick off the fun at noon. Mansfield-located businesses and community organizations can participate by hosting an activity booth or food booth, marching in the Parade, or volunteering at the event. The deadline to apply for a booth is Friday, August 5. For more information, please visit downtownstorrsfestival.org.
- *Moonlight Movies* - The Mansfield Downtown Partnership continues its new Moonlight Movies series on Friday, July 29 with a free showing of Star Wars: The Force Awakens on the Town Square. Fun, free activities for children start at 7:00 PM, and the movie begins at dusk. Snacks will be available for purchase from the Partnership, Mansfield Fire Fighter’s Association, Mansfield Advocates for Children, and the UConn Dairy Bar Ice Cream Truck, while Dog Lane Café will feature movie-themed dinner specials at the restaurant. The Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry will have extended hours and offer a guided tour at 7:00 PM. At 7:30 PM, Bart Roccoberton, Director of UConn’s Puppet Arts Program, will give a pre-film talk entitled “Return of the Puppets.” For more information, please visit mansfieldct.gov/movies.
- *Storrs Farmers Market* - The Storrs Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 3:00 to 6:00 PM through Thanksgiving on the front lawn of the Mansfield Town Hall. Everything sold at the Market is grown and produced in Connecticut. In fact, the average distance from farm to market is just under 10 miles! For more information, please visit storrsfarmersmarket.org.
- *Summer Concerts on the Square* - The Summer Concerts on the Square, presented by Connecticut Water, conclude this week with a performance by Wise Old Moon, an Americana/Roots-Rock group from Hartford. The concert series has been very successful with an average 200-250 people in attendance each week. The Mansfield Downtown Partnership and the Town of Mansfield thank Connecticut Water for their support and that of UConn First Summer, The Oaks on the Square, Main Street Homes at Storrs Center, and Storrs Center Retail. Information about the series can be found at mansfieldmusic.org.

Upcoming Meetings*

- Traffic Authority, July 26, 2016, 9:00 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

- Climate Action Task Force, July 26, 2016, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Economic Development Commission, July 28, 2016, 5:30 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Finance Committee, July 28, 2016, 5:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Inland-Wetland Agency/Planning & Zoning Commission, August 1, 2016, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, August 2, 2016, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Agriculture Committee, August 2, 2016, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, August 3, 2016, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Parks Advisory Committee, August 3, 2016, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, August 4, 2016, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Finance Committee, August 8, 2016, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council Meeting, August 8, 2016, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

**Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 860-429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*